THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF PERSONNEL AND TRAINING OF THE MINISTRY OF PERSONNEL, PUBLIC GRIEVANCES AND PENSIONS (SHRIMATI VASUNDHARA RAJE): (a) The eligibility list for a particular year on a crucial date is drawn on the basis of Common Seniority List (CSL) of Section Officers dated 03.12.1997 which was prepared in pursuance of Supreme Court's orders. The Select List for promotion to Grade-I of CSS (Under Secretary) is drawn in accordance with the Central Secretariat Service (Promotion to Selection Grade & Grade-I) Regulations, 1964.

(b) Yes, Sir.

(c) Interpolation of direct recruit Section Officers appointed during 1993-96 with promotee Section Officers is as under:

Direct Recruit Section Officer (Year of Exam.)	Promotee Section Officer (Select list year)
1993	1982
1994	1983
1995	1984 & 1985
1996	1986 & 1987

(d) The CSS officers are governed by separate statutory rules called CSS Rules, 1962 as amended from time to time.

Reduction in staff strength

1331. SHRI B. J. PANDA: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have a proposal to reduce the existing staff strength during next five years;

(b) if so, the reasons therefor;

(c) whether the downsizing of the staff strength may lead to unemployment problems in the country; and

(d) if so, in what way Government propose to overcome this problem?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF ADMINISTRATIVE REFORMS AND PUBLIC GRIEVANCES OF THE MINISTRY OF PERSONNEL, PUBLIC GRIEVANCES AND PENSIONS (SHRI ARUN SHOURIE): (a) and (b) The Finance Minister while presenting the Budget for 2001-2002 has stated that "all requirements of recruitment will be scrutinised to ensure that fresh recruitment is limited to 1 per cent of total civilian staff strength. As about 3 per cent of staff retire every year, this will reduce the manpower by 2 per cent per annum achieving a reduction of 10 per cent in five years as announced by the Prime Minister." The Department of Personnel and Training has issued instructions to all Ministries and Departments of Government of India on 16 May, 2001 with a view to limiting the recruitment to one-third of the direct recruitment vacancies occurring in each year subject to further ceiling that this does not exceed 1% of the total sanctioned strength of the Department.

(c) and (d) It has increasingly been felt that the size of the bureaucracy has overgrown over a period of time and is having adverse impact on its efficacy. The instructions dated 16.5.2001 have been issued with the primary objective of rightsizing the Government manpower.

Governance Reforms

1332. SHRI NARENDRA MOHAN: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Planning Commission has suggested to Government for "Governance Reforms" by reshaping the bureaucracy so that it discharges its functions effectively thereby providing better and transparent services to the citizens;

(b) if so, whether these recommendations are proposed to be implemented both by the Central and State Governments;

(c) whether any blueprint in this regard has been prepared; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?